

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter in Claim 2 and its dependents is noted with appreciation. In view thereof, Claims 1, 4 and 6 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer, and Claim 2 has been rewritten in independent form.

New Claims 13-21 have been added to provide additional protection for Applicants' invention. Claims 13-21 are based generally upon Claim 2 and its dependents (without means-plus-function), and are also believed to be allowable.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that this application now be passed to issue.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this

paper and has not been requested separately, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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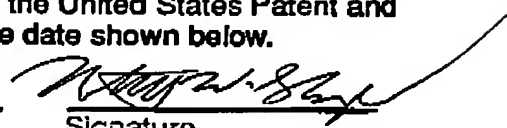
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

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